

**ABSTRACT**

The invention provides technology to generate a graphical depiction on a video display device (VDD) for a stream of packets. Such a graphical depiction can take the form of a matrix of geometric shapes, e.g., squares, each geometric shape representing a packet. Each geometric shape can have an appearance that is indicative of what type the corresponding packet is. Colors can be assigned to the geometric shapes to denote the types of the corresponding packets, respectively. Such technology can also generate a graphical depiction on the VDD of a legend explaining color and packet type relations. Each color in the legend can be depicted in the form of the geometric shape, and each geometric shape can be operable as a pointing-device-clickable button so that, in response to a user clicking on one of the geometric shapes, an interface can be generated by which the color assigned to the geometric shape can be changed by the user.